

16. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein [the] at least one solid compound is an oxidizer that comprises ammonium perchlorate and the propellant further comprises a plasticizer that comprises n-butyl nitrateethyl nitramine, trimethylol ethane trinitrate, triethyleneglycol dinitrate, dioctyl adipate, or isodecyl pelargonate wherein the propellant comprises about 4 weight % to about 10 weight % HTCE binder, about 65 weight % to about 86 weight % oxidizer, and about 5 weight % to about 12 weight % plasticizer.

B²
17. (Amended) The [propellant] method of claim 12, wherein [the] at least one solid compound is an oxidizer that comprises ammonium perchlorate, ammonium nitrate, ammonium dinitramide, cyclotrimethylene trinitramide, or cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine and the propellant further comprises an aluminum or boron metal fuel and a plasticizer that comprises trimethylol ethane trinitrate, triethyleneglycol dinitrate, dioctyl adipate, or isodecyl pelargonate wherein the propellant comprises about 4 weight % to about 10 weight % HTCE binder, about 45 weight % to about 75 weight % oxidizer, about 15 weight % to about 24 weight % metal fuel and about 5 weight % to about 12 weight % plasticizer.

In conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), the amended claims are shown in marked up form on Attachment A.

REMARKS

Claims 12-17 are pending in this application. The Examiner rejected claims 12-17. The Applicant has amended claims 13 and 15-17.

Claim 13 has been amended to correct the typographical error by deleting the word "be". Claims 15-17 have been amended to provide an antecedent basis for the term "oxidizer" and to insert "the propellant" before "and further comprises." Support for this additional description may be found in the Specification on page 3, line 1 and page 3, line 12 through page 4, line 22.

The Examiner rejected to claims 12-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner asserted that the recitation in claim 12 of a polymer and solids is indefinite for implying something not stated. The Applicants point